

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/604,541
Docket NO.: 10690-US-PA

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The drawings are objected under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The Office Action rejected claims 1-2 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Yan (U.S. 5,726,535) in view of Lange (U.S. 6,467,921). The Office Action also rejected claims 3-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Yan (U.S. 5,726,535) in view of Lange (U.S. 6,467,921) and further in view of Hutchisson (U.S. 5,325,271). The Office Action rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Yan (U.S. 5,726,535) in view of Lange (U.S. 6,467,921) and further in view of Smith (U.S. 4,964,025). The Office Action further indicated that claims 7-20 are allowed. Applicants appreciate this indication of allowable subject matter. Applicants have canceled claims 8, 14 and 18 in order to overcome the objection. Applicants have also canceled claims 1-6. No new matter has been introduced into the application by the amendments made herein. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 7, 9-13, 15-17 and 19-20 are in a condition for allowance.

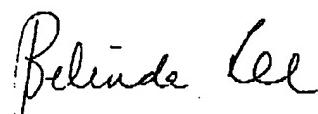
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CONCLUSION

The pending claims 7, 9-13, 15-17 and 19-20 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Belinda Lee

Registration No.: 46,863

Jianq Chyun Intellectual Property Office
7th Floor-1, No. 100
Roosevelt Road, Section 2
Taipei, 100
Taiwan
Tel: 011-886-2-2369-2800
Fax: 011-886-2-2369-7233
Email: belinda@jcipgroup.com.tw
Usa@jcipgroup.com.tw